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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The City of Fremont Selected as a Semifinalist for the \$5M Georgetown University Energy Prize
Fremont among elite communities across the nation leading the charge in energy efficiency

Fremont, Calif. – January 14, 2015 – Today, the City of Fremont officially advances to the Semifinal round of the [Georgetown University Energy Prize](#) (GUEP), a national competition that is challenging communities across the United States to rethink their energy use. At a press event in Washington, D.C., today, Fremont was recognized as one of the top 50 communities that is setting the standards in energy efficiency.

“Fremont has always focused on energy efficiency. We have our own cleantech cluster, with more than 30 clean and green tech firms calling Fremont home,” said City of Fremont Mayor Bill Harrison. “Sustainability is a major theme for our future vision. By participating in the Georgetown University Energy Prize, we can continue to achieve energy milestones for future generations to come.”

Over the next two years, Fremont looks to build on its existing sustainability efforts by promoting no- and low-cost residential energy and water-saving incentive programs and working with the Fremont Unified School District to promote energy literacy and develop school-based energy competitions to get future generations involved, among other strategies.

“With the health and well-being of future generations at the forefront of Fremont’s policy-making, we can bring our future of sustainable urbanism to life,” said Rachel DiFranco, City of Fremont’s sustainability coordinator. “Winning the Georgetown University Energy Prize would not only encourage more eco-conscious citizens, but the money could be put toward grants for local sustainability programs, prize money for schools or neighborhoods that significantly reduce energy storage, and more.”

Fremont joins four other Bay Area communities (Berkeley, Palo Alto, San Mateo and Sunnyvale) in this friendly competition to promote energy efficiency for all.

“The competition looks truly like America,” said Dr. Francis Slakey, founder and executive director of the Georgetown University Energy Prize. “Not only do these communities come from across the map, they come from across the political spectrum, represent all socioeconomic strata, and include demographically diverse populations. Some are paying the highest prices for energy, some have the ambition to be carbon net-zero, but all communities share the goal of transforming America’s energy future.”

To learn more about the Georgetown University Energy Prize and to track the competition’s progress, visit www.guep.org, or follow the Prize on Twitter (@GUEnergyPrize) or Facebook www.facebook.com/guenergyprize).

For more information about Fremont’s efforts and ways you can get involved, please visit www.fremont.gov/GUEP or contact Rachel DiFranco at (510) 494-4451.

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